

# Susan Bonito

*Soprano*

## Résumé

### CONCERT

B Minor Mass (Bach)	Robert Shaw, San Francisco Symphony
An dem Baum Daphne (Strauss)	San Francisco Symphony
Deutsche Motette (Strauss)	San Francisco Symphony
The Desert Music (Steve Reich)	West Coast Premier, S.F. Symphony
Mass in C (Beethoven)	1st Presbyterian Church, Berkeley
Te Deum (Bruckner)	University of California, Berkeley
La Fiesta de la Posada (Brubeck)	Dave Brubeck, Conductor/Pianist
Mass in G Major (Schubert)	St. Anthony's Cathedral, Fresno
Messiah (Handel)	Various Performances
Dona Nobis Pacem (Vaughan Williams)	San Francisco City Chorus
Deutsche Requiem (Brahms)	Various Performances
Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen (Bach)	Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, Alaska
Vesperae Solennes (Mozart)	Dr. Byron McGilvray, Conductor
Requiem (Mozart)	1st Congregational Church/S.F. Symphony (Cover)
Requiem (Verdi) Cover	Edo De Waart, Herbert Blomstedt, S.F. Symphony
Ninth Symphony (Beethoven) Cover	Neemi Järvi, Herbert Blomstedt, S.F. Symphony
Eighth Symphony (Mahler) Cover	Edo De Waart, S.F. Symphony
Missa Solemnis (Beethoven) Cover	San Francisco Symphony
Glagolitic Mass (Janáček) Cover	Michael Tilson Thomas, S.F. Symphony
The Oratorio of Daniel (Bristow)	N.E. Premiere, Assabet Valley Mastersingers
The Seasonings (PDQ Bach)	Newport Music Festival

### OPERA

Stiffelio	Lina	Pocket Opera
Così fan tutte	Fiordiligi	California Repertory Opera
Suor Angelica	Suor Angelica	California State University, Fresno
Dido and Aeneas	Belinda	Concert Version, San Francisco
Selected Arias		National Concert Hall, Taipei
Selected Arias		Kensington Symphony, Berkeley

### AWARDS/REVIEWS

- 1988 Semifinalist, Belvedere International Opera Competition (Vienna, Austria)
- 1983 District Winner, Metropolitan Opera Auditions (San Joaquin District)
- 1982 Finalist, California Young Artist's Competition (Carmel Music Society)
- 1978 Winner, Music Teachers Association (Northern California)

*"The Deutsche Motette...was a stunning performance. The soprano soars in the stratospheric regions...Susan Benner [Bonito] traced this in crystalline tone."*

-Robert Commanday, THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

*"...Benner [Bonito] impressed me especially...[she] was completely persuasive..."*

-Allen B. Skei, THE FRESNO BEE

### RECORDINGS/FILM SCORES

Brahms (Choral Works)	San Francisco Symphony, London/Decca
Carmina Burana (Orff)	San Francisco Symphony, London/Decca (1993 Grammy Award)
Deutsche Requiem (Brahms)	San Francisco Symphony, London/Decca (1996 Grammy Award)
Godfather III	Carmine Copola, Soundtrack (Vatican Sequence)

## **RECITALS**

2002 Great American Songwriter's Program, Massachusetts  
1988 Debut Recital, San Francisco, California  
1977 All American Program, Fresno, California  
1976 Senior Recital, California State University, Fresno

## **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

VOICE: Charlotte Russell, Leslie Holmes, Dewey Camp, Dean Rhodus, Harriett Gill,  
Dorothy Renzi, Nina Hinson  
COACHES: Marcie Stapp, Eileen Shelle, Kathryn Cathcart, Martha Gearhart  
MASTER CLASSES: Håkan Hagegård, Elly Ameling, Marlene Malas

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

AGMA - American Guild of Musical Artists - Active Member since 1984  
NATS - National Association of Teachers of Singing (National Member & Boston Chapter)  
Massachusetts Department of Education – Certified in Music K-12

## **EDUCATION**

California State University, Fresno B.A. (cum laude) Vocal Performance  
University of Southern California  
Kings River Community College A.A.  
Kindermusik International – Completed Kindermusik Educator Training  
Estill Voice Training – Levels I and II – Indian Hill Music Center

## **TEACHING/DIRECTING EXPERIENCE**

2002 – Present Indian Hill Music School (Private Voice Lessons, Intergenerational Choir,  
Kindermusik, Children's Musical Theater Program, Voice Festival)  
2001 – Present United Parish of Upton, Choir Director  
2001 – 2003 Adventures in Music – Founder/Director (Movement & Music for Children)  
1998 – 1999 Algonquin Regional High School, Northborough, MA – Voice Teacher  
1996 – 1998 First Parish in Lincoln, Youth Choir Director  
1987 Piedmont Children's Choir Camp (Private Voice Lessons & Music Theory)  
1986 – Present Private Voice Studio

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Soprano, Susan Benner-Bonito began her musical training as a classical saxophonist at the age of twelve. She culminated her senior year of High School, by winning first chair in the National Honor Band, America's Youth in Concert, and enjoyed the solo spotlight with that group in performances at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and throughout Europe. She began her formal vocal training at the University of Southern California, where she studied with Nina Hinson, Madame Gwendolyn Koldofsky and Natalie Lamonick. Her professional credits include numerous performances with the San Francisco Symphony and Chorus, the Newport Music Festival, the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, California Repertory Opera, Music from Bear Valley, Pippen's Pocket Opera, Kensington Symphony, the McGilvray Chorale, San Francisco Chamber Singers, and at the National Concert Hall in Taipei, Taiwan. She has performed with such distinguished conductors as Robert Shaw, Edo De Waart, Herbert Blomstedt, Neemi Järvi, Michael Tilson Thomas, John Nelson, Charles Mackerras, Kurt Masur and Christopher Hogwood.

Ms. Bonito was a winner of the Metropolitan Opera Regional Auditions and the Music Teachers Association VOCE Auditions, a finalist in the California Young Artist's Competition sponsored by the Carmel Music Society, and a semifinalist in the Belvedere International Opera Auditions in Vienna, Austria.

Concert tours have taken her to Europe, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Alaska, and throughout the United States. Recording and film score collaborations include two Grammy-winning recordings with the San Francisco Symphony and Chorus, and the film soundtrack for *Godfather, Part III* with Carmine Copola conducting.

Ms. Bonito is on the voice faculty St. Mark's School in Southborough, and at Indian Hill Music School in Littleton, Massachusetts, where she teaches private voice lessons, and directs the Children's Musical Theater Program. Ms. Bonito maintains a private voice studio in Medon, Massachusetts, and is the Music Director at the United Parish of Upton where she conducts two choirs and a Praise Band.

*Susan Bonito, 21 Wood Drive, Mendon, MA 01756, Telephone: (508) 634-8873*